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PROGRAM Daywatch

STATION CNN TV
CNN Network

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SUBJECT Embassy Bombing/Ties to Iranian Government

HOST: There's been some speculation about the Iranian terrorist group that claimed responsibility for last month's bomb blast at the American Embassy in Beirut and its ties to the Iranian government.

On his way out of the news conference last night, Mr. Reagan said, if those reports prove accurate the executive branch would take action.

REPORTER: Mr. President, if it turns out the Iranian government...

(Confusion of voices)

RONALD REAGAN: I tell you that we will see what we're going to do about it.

HOST: There have been some new reports this week that the United States government might have had advance word about the bombing of some building in Beirut at the time that the Embassy was blasted. In that, 63 people died, including 17 Americans.

Senior correspondent Daniel Shorr told us about this possibility several weeks ago. And this morning, former State Department official, Joseph Cisco, told me that embassies and the State Department get information about possible incidents of violence all the time. CNN's intelligence analyst, David Wise, is with us to talk about this. David, I know you've talked to your sources as recently as today about this situation. What do you know? Was there -- were there advance reports? Did the Embassy tighten security? Did they not tighten it enough?

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